# STATE OF ILLINOIS SECRETARY OF STATE SECURITIES DEPARTMENT

IN THE MATTER OF:	
Marcin Malarz,	) )
Jacek Sienkiewicz (CRD # 2358381),	
Malarz Equity Investments, LLC, and its partners, members, officers, directors, agents, employees, affiliates, successors and assigns,	/ ) ) ) File Number: 1000096
Malarz Equity Investment, Inc. and its partners, members, officers, directors, agents, employees, affiliates, successors and assigns,	) ) ) )
Invision Investment, LLC and its partners, members, officers, directors, agents, employees, affiliates, successors and assigns.	) ) ) )

## TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROHIBITION

TO THE RESPONDENTS:

Marcin Malarz

5301 Keystone Drive

Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Marcin Malarz

1313 E. Westleigh Road Lake Forest, IL 60045

Jacek Sienkiewicz

5301 Keystone Drive

Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Jacek Sienkiewicz 5279 N. Lamon Avenue Chicago, IL 60630 -7-

Malarz Equity Investments, LLC 5301 Keystone Drive Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Malarz Equity Investments, LLC 1313 E. Westleigh Road Lake Forest, IL 60045

Malarz Equity Investment, LLC c/o its Registered Agent Fredric D. Tannenbaum 222 N. LaSalle Street, Suite 800 Chicago, IL 60601

Malarz Equity Investment, Inc. 1313 E. Westleigh Road Lake Forest, IL 60045

Invision Investment, LLC 5301 Keystone Drive Rolling Meadows, IL 60008

Invision Investment, LLC c/o its Registered Agent Marvin M. Siegel 3330 Old Glenview Road, Ste. 7 Wilmette, IL 60091

On information and belief, I, Jesse White, Secretary of State for the State of Illinois, through my designated representative, who has been fully advised in the premises by the staff of the Securities Department, Office of the Secretary of State, herein find:

### FRAUD IN THE OFFER AND SALE OF SECURITIES

#### Background

- 1. Respondent Marcin Malarz ("Malarz") is an individual with last known addresses of 5301 Keystone Drive, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 and 1313 E. Westleigh Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045.
- 2. Arthur Lin ("Arthur") is an individual with last known addresses of 900 N. Arlington Heights Road, Itasca, Illinois 60143 and 4975 Lichfield Drive, Barrington, Illinois 60010. Arthur was previously registered with LPL Financial Corporation as an investment adviser representative and securities salesperson from September of 2006 until April 1, 2010 when the Illinois Securities Department temporarily suspended his registration.

- 3. Gloria Lin ("Gloria") is the wife of Arthur and has a last known address of 4975 Lichfield Drive, Barrington, Illinois 60010. At all relevant times, Gloria provided income tax preparation services to individuals at two different locations in Downers Grove, Illinois. Gloria is listed as a co-founder of MEI in the company's offering documents.
- 4. In September of 2006, Malarz, Arthur, and Gloria formed Malarz Equity Investments, LLC, an entity with last known addresses of 5301 Keystone Drive, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 and 1313 E. Westleigh Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045. Malarz Equity Investments, LLC purported to purchase apartment buildings, convert them into condominiums, and offer the converted condominiums for sale to the public.
- 5. In February of 2010, Marcin Malarz formed Malarz Equity Investment, Inc., an entity with a last known address of 1313 E. Westleigh Road, Lake Forest, IL 60045. Malarz Equity Investment, Inc. is an alter ego entity of Malarz Equity Investments, LLC, and hereafter the two entities will be collectively referred to as "MEI".
- 6. Respondent Jacek Sienkiewicz ("Sienkiewicz") is an individual with last known addresses of 5301 Keystone Drive, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008 and 5279 N. Lamon Avenue, Chicago, IL 60630.
- 7. On October 18, 2006, Malarz and Sienkiewicz formed Invision Investment, LLC, ("Invision") a company that also purported to purchase apartment buildings, convert them into condominiums, and offer the converted condominiums for sale to the public. Invision has a last known address of 5301 Keystone Drive, Rolling Meadows, IL 60008.
- 8. As early as 2008, Malarz, Sienkiewicz, and Arthur began soliciting investors to purchase promissory notes being offered by MEI and/or Invision.
- 9. In the course of soliciting investors, Malarz, Sienkiewicz, and Arthur distributed a document called a Summary Information Memorandum ("SIM") to potential investors. The SIM discussed the terms of the investment being offered, and there were separate SIMs for the MEI and invision offerings.

### **MEI Offering**

- 10. Malarz and Arthur distributed MEI's SIM to potential investors. This SIM stated that:
  - a. Investors would receive a 12 to 15% return on their principal;
  - b. Malarz personally guaranteed principal and interest payments to investors;
  - c. There is no pending litigation against the company;
  - d. The offering would be capped at \$3 million.
- 11. Despite statements in the MEI's SIM that there was no pending litigation against MEI, and despite Malarz's personal guarantee to make principal and interest payments to investors. Malarz and Arthur failed to disclose to investors that Malarz was named as a

defendant in more than one civil action at the time they solicited investments in MEI's promissory notes.

- 12. For example, on October 11, 2007, Malarz was named as a defendant in a mortgage foreclosure action. On February 27, 2008, a judgment of foreclosure was entered and the property in question was sold at a Sheriff's auction.
- 13. Additionally, despite statements in MEI's SIM that the investment offering of promissory notes will be capped at \$3 million, Malarz and Arthur sold over \$6.3 million worth of promissory notes to MEI investors.
- 14. The aforementioned misrepresentations and omissions of material fact address the solvency and financial condition of Malarz and his ability to make principal and interest payments to investors.
- 15. Additionally, these misrepresentations and omissions of fact obfuscate the true risks of investing in MEI, and make Malarz's personal guarantee to make principal and interest payments to investors misleading.
- 16. MEI's SIM also misrepresented the use of the proceeds from making sales of promissory notes. MEI's SIM states:

The company intends to raise up to \$3,000,000 from Investors which will be used to purchase several apartment buildings, likely five or six, in the suburban Chicagoland area which the Company intends to convert to condominium ownership by the Company and to sell to condominium unit purchasers.

- 17. Despite this statement, Malarz omitted to inform investors that he was planning on converting the money for his own personal uses unrelated to purchasing apartment buildings or converting those buildings into condominiums.
- 18. For example, Malarz used funds from MEI's Chase bank account to pay for travel to Poland, and also used company funds for a Las Vegas excursion where he spent thousands of dollars on hotel rooms and entertainment. Specifically, Malarz spent \$3,221.84 at Caesar's Palace and \$1,332.67 for an evening out at "Pure" nightclub. Malarz also spent over \$2700.00 a month in company funds to pay for his personal BMW.
- 19. Malarz used MEI's company funds for his personal expenditures even though MEI's SIM states that Malarz "shall receive no compensation for his services to the company".
- 20. Malarz also omitted to inform investors that he used company funds to pay substantial amounts of money to Arthur's wife, Gloria. Between December 4, 2006 and March 15, 2008, Malarz made payments totaling at least \$382,000 to Gloria from MEI's bank account with Chase Bank.

- 21. MEI's SIM also omitted to state that a substantial amount of investor funds would be used to pay back previous investors of MEI's promissory notes.
- 22. For example, after receiving a copy of MEI's SIM, Investor A purchased a \$100,000.00 promissory note on September 29, 2008. The terms of this note stated that Investor A would receive quarterly interest payments (at 12% per annum) beginning on January 1, 2009 and that her principal and accrued interest (totaling \$124,000) would be paid to her in full by September 30, 2010.
- 23. Prior to Investor A's investment, MEI's Fifth Third Bank checking account had a balance of a mere \$147. After Investor A's \$100,000 investment was deposited into MEI's Fifth Third Bank checking account on September 29, 2008, the balance was \$100,147. No other deposits were made into MEI's Fifth Third Bank checking account that day.
- 24. The day after Investor A's \$100,000 investment was deposited into MEI's bank account, Malarz immediately made \$46,098.00 worth of payments to previous investors of MEI. These payments include:
  - a. \$7,600,00 to Investor C on 9/30/08
  - b. \$15,050,00 to Investor D on 9/30/08
  - c. \$5,675,00 to Investor E on 9/30/08
  - d. \$14,000.00 to Investor F on 9/30/08
  - e. \$3,773.00 to Investor G on 9/30/08
- 25. To date, despite the terms of the promissory note she purchased on September 29, 2008, Investor A has never received even one of the payments promised to her. Furthermore, Investor A never received any principal or interest payments even though Malarz personally guaranteed that these payments would be made.
- 26. As a result of their efforts in soliciting investors by fraudulent means, Malarz and Arthur sold MEI promissory notes to several Illinois investors.

### **Invision Offering**

- 27. Malarz and Sienkiewicz distributed Invision's SIM to potential investors. This SIM stated that:
  - a. Investors would receive a 50% return on their principal;
  - b. Malarz and Sienkiewicz personally guaranteed principal and interest payments to investors;
  - c. There is no pending litigation against the company;
  - d. The offering would be capped at \$3 million.
- 28. Despite statements in the Invision's SIM that there was no pending litigation against Invision, and despite Malarz and Sienkiewicz's personal guarantee to make principal and interest payments to investors, Malarz and Sienkiewicz failed to disclose to investors that

Malarz was named as a defendant in more than one civil action at the time they solicited investments in Invision's promissory notes.

- 29. For example, as stated earlier, on October 11, 2007, Malarz was named as a defendant in a mortgage foreclosure action. On February 27, 2008, a judgment of foreclosure was entered and the property in question was sold at a Sheriff's auction.
- 30. The aforementioned omission of fact addresses the solvency and financial condition of Malarz and his ability to make principal and interest payments to investors.
- 31. Additionally, by omitting that Malarz is a party to pending civil lawsuits, Malarz and Sienkiewicz obfuscate the true risks of investing in Invision, and make their personal guarantee to make principal and interest payments to investors misleading.
- 32. As a result of their efforts in soliciting investors by fraudulent means, Malarz and Sienkiewicz sold Invision's promissory notes to at least one Illinois investor.
- 33. For example, Investor B, after receiving a copy of Invision's SIM, purchased a \$100,000.00 promissory note on or about January 12, 2008. The terms of this note stated that Investor B would receive his principal and accrued interest (totaling \$150,000.00) on January 11, 2009.
- 34. Despite the terms of the promissory note he purchased, Investor B never received the principal or interest that was to be paid to him. Furthermore, Investor B never received his principal or interest payments even though Malarz and Sienkiewicz personally guaranteed that these payments would be made.
- 35. The offer and sale of MEI's and Invision's promissory notes constitute the offer and sale of a security as those terms are defined in Sections 2.1, 2.5, and 2.5a of the Illinois Securities Law of 1953 [815 ILCS 5/1 et. seq.] (the "Act").
- 36. Section 12.A of the Act provides that it shall be a violation for any person to offer or sell any security except in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- 37. Section 12.F of the Act provides that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to engage in any transaction, practice or course of business in connection with the sale or purchase of securities which works or tends to work a fraud or deceit upon the purchaser or seller thereof.
- 38. Section 12.G of the Act provides that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to obtain money or property through the sale of securities by means of any untrue statement of a material fact or any omission to state a material fact necessary in order to make the statements made, in light of the circumstances under which they were made, not misleading.

- 39. Section 12.H of the Act states that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to sign or circulate any statement, prospectus, or other paper or document required by any provision of this Act or pertaining to any security knowing or having reasonable grounds to know any material representation therein contained to be false or untrue.
- 40. Section 12.I of the Act provides that it shall be a violation of the provisions of this Act for any person to employ any device, scheme or artifice to defraud in connection with the sale or purchase of any security, directly or indirectly.
- 41. By virtue of the foregoing, the Respondents violated Sections 12.A, 12.F, 12.G, 12.H, 12.I of the Act.

#### OFFER AND SALE OF UNREGISTERED SECURITIES

- 42. Section 5 of the Act provides, *inter alia*, that all securities except those exempt under Section 3 or those offered or sold in transactions exempt under Section 4 "shall be registered either by coordination or qualification prior ... to their offer or sale" in the State of Illinois.
- 43. Respondents failed to file with the Secretary of State an application for registration of the securities described above as required by the Act and, as a result, the securities were not registered pursuant to Section 5 of the Act prior to their offer or sale in the State of Illinois.
- 44. Section 12.A of the Act provides that it shall be a violation for any person to offer or sell any security except in accordance with the provisions of the Act.
- 45. Section 12.D of the Act provides, *inter alia*, that it shall be a violation for any person to fail to file with the Secretary of State any application, report or document required to be filed under the provisions of the Act or any rule or regulation made by the Secretary of State pursuant to the Act.
- 46. By virtue of the foregoing, the Respondents violated Sections 12.A and 12.D of the Act.

### **PROHIBITION**

- 47. Section 11.F(2) of the Act provides, *inter alia*, that the Secretary of State may temporarily prohibit the offer or sale of securities by any person, without notice and prior hearing, if the Secretary of State shall deem it necessary to prevent an imminent violation of the Act or to prevent losses to investors that will occur as a result of prior violations of the Act.
- 48. The entry of this Temporary Order of Prohibition prohibiting Respondents Marcin Malarz, Jacek Sienkiewicz, Malarz Equity Investments, LLC, Malarz Equity Investment, Inc., and Invision Investment, LLC or their agents, affiliates, successors and employees,

from offering or selling securities in the State of Illinois is in the public interest and for the protection of the investing public and is consistent with the purposes intended by the provisions of the Act.

NOW THEREFORE IT IS HEREBY ORDERED THAT: pursuant to the authority granted by Section 11.F of the Act, Respondents Marcin Malarz, Jacek Sienkiewicz, Malarz Equity Investments, LLC, Malarz Equity Investment, Inc., and Invision Investment, LLC and each of Respondents' partners, members, officers and directors, agents, employees, affiliates, successors and assigns, are Temporarily Prohibited from offering or selling securities in or from this State for a maximum period of ninety (90) days.

NOTICE is hereby given that Respondent may request a hearing on this matter by transmitting such request in writing to:

James Gleffe
Enforcement Attorney
Illinois Securities Department
Office of the Secretary of State
69 West Washington Street, Suite 1220
Chicago, Illinois 60602

Such request must be made within thirty (30) calendar days of the date of entry of the **Temporary Order of Prohibition.** Upon receipt of a request for hearing, a hearing will be scheduled as soon as reasonably practicable. A request for hearing will not stop the effectiveness of this Temporary Order of Prohibition,

FAILURE OF ANY RESPONDENT TO REQUEST A HEARING WITHIN THIRTY (30) CALENDAR DAYS AFTER ENTRY OF THIS TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROHIBITION SHALL CONSTITUTE AN ADMISSION OF ANY FACTS ALLEGED HEREIN AND SHALL CONSTITUTE SUFFICIENT BASIS TO MAKE THIS TEMPORARY ORDER OF PROHIBITION FINAL.

Dated this 12th day of August 2010.

Secretary of State
State of Illinois

Attorney for the Secretary of State:

James R. Gleffe
Enforcement Attorney
Illinois Securities Department
Office of the Secretary of State
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